

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 SCA-01 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SY-10

DRC-01 INRE-00 /083 W

----- 112129

O R 131510Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3836

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, UR, APER

SUFCECT: ATTACK ON EMBASSY NANNY

FOR EUR/SOV AND A/SY/SAS

REF: MOSCOW 14129

1. CONSOFF WAS SUMMONED TO MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION BY FIRST SECRETARY NECHAYEV ON URGENT BASIS 1630 HOURS NOV 13 TO RECEIVE ORAL STATEMENT WITHHOLDING ISSUANCE SOVIET EXIT PERMISSION TO EMBASSY NANNY SANDRA HELEN LAYMAN. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION.

2. "IN CONNECTION WITH REQUEST OF EMBASSY ON ISSUANCE EXIT VISA TO AMERICAN CITIZEN S. LAYMAN IT IS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF EMBASSY THAT POLICE INVESTIGATING ORGANS ARE REQUIRED INVITE LAYMAN TO MOSCOW 126TH DISTRICT POLICE STATION FOR QUESTIONING WITH AIM OF EXPLAINING CIRCUMSTANCES OF INCIDENT IN WHICH SHE WAS INVOLVED, AND CONCERNING WHICH THE EMBASSY CONTACTED MFA NOVEMBER 10 (TELEPHONE CONVERSATION OF GARRISON QITH FEDOSEYEV). THEREFORE, THE QUESTION OF ISSUANCE EXIT VISA WILL BE DECIDED LATER."

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3. CONSOFF EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT IN THAT THIS WOULD APPEAR

TO CONSTITUTE DETENTION OF EMBASSY EMPLOYEE IN USSR AGAINST HER OWN WILL AND THAT OF EMBASSY. HE STATED THAT INCIDENT WAS HIGHLY TRAUMATIC FOR LAYMAN AND THAT SHE WISHED RETURN HOME IMMEDIATELY. HE ASSURED NECHAYEV AND SECOND SECRETARY MITROYEV (WHO SAT IN) THAT EMBASSY ITSELF INTENDED COOPERATE FULLY WITH MFA AND POLICE CONCERNING INCIDENT. HE EXPLAINED IN THIS REGARD THAT LAYMAN DEPOSITION BEING PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION MFA AND THAT IT WAS IN SIMILAR EFFORT COOPERATE THAT GARRISON CONTACTED MFA EVEN EARLIER.

4. CONSOFF ASKED CLARIFICATION OF "LATER" (POZHE) IN ORAL STATEMENT. NECHAYEV ESTIMATED THAT DELAY WOULD BE "SEVERAL DAYS -- UNTIL COMPLETION OF QUESTIONING." CONSOFF ALSO REQUESTED CLARIFICATION AS TO WHETHER DELAY WAS POLICE OR MFA DECISION. NECHAYEV REPLIED THAT IT DECISION OF LEADERSHIP OF CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION. IN OBVIOUS EFFORT DOWNPLAY FORMALITY OF STATEMENT, NECHAYEV SMILINGLY TOOK WRITTEN COPY HANDED CONSOFF AND RIPPED OFF ALL BUT SHORT TEXT.

5. RECOMMENDATION: EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT NECHAYEV'S OBVIOUS DOWNPLAYING GESTURE CONCERNING FORMALITY OF DECISION WITHHOLD EXIT PERMISSION INDICATES MFA BEING CAREFUL AVOID FORECLOSING ITS OPTIONS. SINCE THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE AMPLE PRECEDENT FOR REFUSAL ON PART SOVIET PERSONNEL APPEAR IN US COURTS (E.G., DURING ANTI-SOVIET INCIDENTS 1970-71), EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT CONSUL INFORM NECHAYEV SOONEST THAT EMBASSY NOT RPT NOT PREPARED HAVE LAYMAN APPEAR IN COURT OR BE SUBJECTED TO FURTHER POLICE QUESTIONING. CONSUL WILL ALSO EMPHASIZE HUMANITAIRAN ASPECTS LAYMAN'S SITUATION AND FACT THAT DENIAL OF EXIT PERMISSION TO EMBASSY EMPLOYEE (LAYMAN AND OTHER AMCIT NANNIES CARRY MFA CARDS IDENTIFYING THEM AS SUCH) COULD CREATE VERY UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE URGENTLY RECONSIDERED. CONSUL WILL OFFER AS ALTERNATIVE PROMPT SUBMISSION OF SWORN LAYMAN DEPOSITION AND ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE ON PART EMBASSY. DEPT CONCURRENCE REQUESTED SOONEST.

6. FYI: LAYMAN'S EMOTIONAL STATE HAS BEEN AGGRAVATED BY FACT SHE JUST LEARNED HER FATHER IS SERIOUSLY ILL WITH HEART CONDITION. SHE IS ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO US SOONEST AND ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HEARING OF WITHHOLDING OF EXIT PERMISSION SHE BECAME EXTREMELY DISTRAUGHT.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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